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CPYRGHT

2 Tourists Missing In Soviet Sought By State Department

Bath, Maine, Sept. 16 (AP)—Two American tourists who apparently disappeared behind the Iron Curtain are being sought by United States officials in Washington and Moscow.

Harvey C. Bennett, 26, of Bath and Mark Kaminsky, 27, of Edwardsburg, Mich. — both United States Air Force veterans—were reported missing by Bennett's wife here. She said the two men were supposed to return from a tour of the Soviet Union September 1.

The United States Department in Washington stepped into the case after receiving a letter from Mrs. Bennett seeking information and assistance.

Russian Area Studies

The State Department said today that the United States Embassy in Moscow also is investigating the disappearance and has asked Intourist, the Soviet travel organization, for help.

Bennett was graduated last Jan-

uary from the University of California, at Berkeley, where he majored in Russian area studies. He was unemployed immediately prior to leaving on the tour.

Kaminsky served as an interpreter for the 1959 United States exhibition in Moscow. He was supposed to join the faculty of Purdue University as a Russian expert this fall, but has not been in touch with the university.

Mrs. Bennett said her husband and Kaminsky entered the Soviet Union from Helsinki, Finland, July 27 on a tour arranged by Amerpole Enterprises, in Detroit.

Letter From Ukraine

She said she has heard nothing from her husband since a letter dated August 19, mailed from a small village in the Ukraine, which indicated he would be leaving Russia in a few days.

Mrs. Bennett said she has also sent several requests to the Amerpole agency for help in locating her husband.

In Detroit today, however, the agency said it had merely acted as a travel agent, making arrangements for plane tickets and automobile rental. It said the car was picked up at Helsinki but has not been turned in at Vienna, where the men were scheduled to go after leaving the Soviet Union.